(b) Yes, Sir. The tenders so far floated are for import of wheat only.

(c) The details of the tender, quantity, and price of wheat imported during the last two years, till date, country-wise are given in enclosed Statement (*See* below).

(d) Since the Government is committed not to compromise on food security of the country, appropriate decision to import wheat will be taken as and when required.

Statement

Details of tender, quantity and price of wheat imported during the last two years, till date and countrywise

1. Wheat was imported during 2006-07 through the State Trading Corporation from Australia, Russia, Canada, Argentina, France, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungry and Czech Republic of Slovakia as under:

Sl. No.	Contracted Quantity (in lakh MTs)	Weighted Average Price in UT $ per Tonne
	2006-07	
1.	5.008	178.65
2.	7.877	191.24
3.	22.381	197.29
4.	3.292	209.65
5.	15.983	227.17
TOTAL:	54.54	204.66

2. Government has decided to import 23 lakh tonnes of wheat for the Central Pool during 2007-08, out of which orders have been placed for import of 13.06 lakh tonnes. Out of the 13.06 lakh tonnes of wheat, 5.11 lakh MTs at a weighted average price of US $ 325.59 per quintal C&F (FO) for import from Canada, Russia or any other country as per the sellers' choice and 7.95 lakh tonnes at a weighted average price of US $ 389.45 per quintal C&F (FO).

Rise in prices of pulses

†570. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of pulses namely chana, urad, tuhar and masoor, etc., have gone up in October, 2007 as compared to September, 2007;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and extent of rise in the prices of aforesaid pulses;

(c) the reason for said price rise; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether the said reason was not avoidable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) Retail prices in Delhi of gram dal, urad dal (chilka) and Masoor dal (red) have shown no increase. Retail prices of tur dal has reduced over the month and that of moong dal (chilka) rose by Rs. 1.50 per kg.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

Surplus production of sugarcane

†571. SHRI MOTILAL VORA:
SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of sugar likely to be produced this year in view of surplus production of sugarcane;

(b) the steps taken by Government to check refusal of sugarcane by the sugar mills;

(c) whether Government has suggested to the sugar mills to produce ethanol from sugarcane in place of sugar;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the amounts outstanding against Government, co-operative and private sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh; and

(f) the action taken against the sugar mills which have not paid the amount of sugarcane to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The quantity of sugar likely to be produced during the sugar season 2007-08 is provisionally estimated at 280 plus lac tons.

(b) No case of refusal of sugarcane from the sugar mills has been reported to the Central Government.

(c) and (d) In order to reduce over supply of sugar and to augment availability of ethanol, the Government has decided to permit sugar factories to produce ethanol directly from sugarcane juice.

(e) and (f) As per the information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, the sector-wise cane price arrears for the sugar season 2006-07, as on 15th October, 2007 were as under:—

Sector	Cane Price Arrears (Rs. in crores)
Public	155.03
Cooperative	183.07
Private	1174.01
TOTAL :	1512.11

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.